

LX.—*Diagnostic Characters of some new Genera and Species of Prionidæ.* By FRANCIS P. PASCOE, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

SARMYDUS.

Antennæ compressæ, articulo tertio quam scapus longiore et latiore. Prothorax transversus, lateraliter spinosus. Femora et tibiæ compressæ. Prosternum productum.

Dorycera affinis, sed antennæ valde diversæ.

Sarmyds antennatus.

S. fuscescens; elytris costatis, postice subreticulatis; antennis articulis quatuor basalibus fuscis, cæteris flavis. Long. 11 lin.

Hab. Sarawak.

XAURUS.

(♀) Caput infra antennas paulo productum. Antennæ breves, articulo tertio quam scapus brevior. Prothorax irregularis, lateraliter spinosus. Parapleura metathoracis oblongo-quadrata.

Tragosomæ affinis, sed antennæ et parapleura diversa.

Xaurus depsarius.

X. fulvo-brunneus; elytra ampliata, intricate punctata. Long. 20 lin.

Hab. Morty.

NEPIODES.

Mandibulæ elongatæ. Scapus antennarum perbrevis. Oculi magni, supra approximati. Prothorax transversim subquadratus, inermis.

Ægosomæ affinis.

Nepiodes cognatus.

N. rufo-fuscus; elytris tricostatis. Long. 8 lin.

Hab. Sarawak.

ZARAX.

Palpi brevissimi. Antennæ incrassatæ, breves, muticæ, scapo brevissimo. Tarsi brevissimi, infra canaliculati.

Cum *Macrotomate* prosterno congruit, aliter diversus.

Zarax eurypodiioides.

Z. piceus, supra crebre et subtiliter punctatus; elytris obsolete octocostatis. Long. 11 lin.

Hab. Sarawak.

OMOTAGUS.

Tarsi lineares, articulis tribus basalibus infra ad apices biscopuliferis. Mandibulæ dentibus duobus magnis conjunctis instructæ.

Hystato affinis, sed mandibulis aliis.

Omotagus Lacordairii.

O. capite prothoraceque nigris, opacis; hoc subtilissime granuloso-

punctato, lateribus dentato-serratis; elytris crebre punctulatis, piceis, nitidis, leviter quadricostulatis. Long. 34 lin.

Hab. Dorey.

The above diagnoses are made from specimens forming a part of the rich collection made by Mr. Wallace in the Malayan archipelago, and will be treated in detail in my 'Longicornia Malayana.' In the interval they will be redescribed by Prof. Lacordaire in the forthcoming volume of the 'Genera,' and they are now in his hands for that purpose. I am already in possession of his views regarding the affinities of these genera; and although they are not in all cases in accordance with what is here given, I have thought it better to let what I had previously written stand without any alteration.

I have taken this opportunity to describe some new species of the family from other localities. One is an entirely new genus, from the extreme north of Australia; and another is a second and very distinct species of *Hoplideres*, from Madagascar*.

Prionus Gerrardi.

P. capite prothoraceque nigrescentibus, hoc dentibus duobus latis utrinque instructo; antennis 11-articulatis, articulis a quinto ad decimum apice unilateraliter productis.

Hab. Madagascar.

Head and prothorax brownish black, roughly punctured; eyes large and nearly approximate above; each side of the prothorax with two broad teeth, the posterior angle not produced, the disk with three large flat tubercles, punctures coarse and crowded; scutellum coarsely punctured; elytra elongate, parallel, light brown, thickly punctured, the intervals very slightly wrinkled, each elytron with four raised lines, which by their union present a small reticulate area near the apex, the latter completely rounded; body beneath glossy reddish brown; legs rather feeble, clothed with short stiffish hairs; antennæ 11-jointed, the fifth to the tenth joints, inclusive, prolonged on one side at their apices, the last elongate-ovate. Length 18 lines.

A somewhat long and depressed species, with feeble legs (σ), not suggestive of any near ally. I have named it after the late Mr. W. S. Gerrard, who fell a victim to the climate while collecting in Madagascar.

* The names of two of the genera of Prionidæ are preoccupied, viz. *Chiasmus* and *Hephiattes*, J. Thoms., the former previously used in the Hemiptera by M. Mulsant, and the latter (more correctly *Ephialtes*) by Keyserling and Blasius for a genus of birds. *Chiasmus* I propose to change to *Chiasmetes*; *Ephialtes* is unknown to me. *Cacosceles*, Newm., will, I fear, be regarded as too near to *Cacoscelis*, Chev., which has the priority.

Prionus tetanicus.

P. fuscus, prothorace scutelloque nitidis, interrupte et subtiliter punctatis; elytris rugosis, fere obsolete quadricostatis.

Hab. Chosan (Japanese Sea).

Dark brown; head not very closely punctured: prothorax shining, two rather strong teeth on each side, the posterior angle well-marked, but not spiniform; punctures very fine, interrupted in the middle; scutellum smooth and shining, marked by a few small punctures: elytra somewhat narrow, finely rugose, very closely covered with very numerous small punctiform impressions separated from each other by minute zigzag lines, very clear and distinct under a good lens, each elytron marked by two scarcely elevated but sufficiently obvious lines: body beneath and femora glossy brown: legs rather long, robust; tibiæ spinosely rugose, especially the two posterior pair, fluted; tarsi reddish chestnut: antennæ 12-jointed, the joints large, mostly depressed and dilated on both sides from the third to the ninth or tenth, but gradually less on one side as they approach the twelfth, which is oblong-ovate. Length 14 lines.

Allied to *P. Besicanus*, but, among many other points of difference, distinguished by the numerous small spines covering the intermediate and posterior tibiæ. I owe my specimen to Arthur Adams, Esq., R.N.

Hoplideres levicollis.

(♀) *H. brunneus*, subnitidus; prothorace bicalloso, obsolete punctato; elytris antennisque muticis.

Hab. Madagascar.

Reddish brown, subnitid; face with crowded but very shallow punctures: prothorax with five spines on each side, the two posterior united at the base; the disk with two large flat callosities, from each of which projects a short lateral tooth, the interval obsoletely punctured; scutellum nearly semicircular, minutely punctured: elytra very glossy and thickly punctured at the base, suddenly becoming very finely and then almost obsoletely punctured, and at the same time losing much of the glossiness, not spined at the shoulders, and the sides beneath not serrated: body beneath with a short, greyish pile; antennæ without spines. Length 14 lines.

Much shorter and more glossy than *H. spinipennis*; the head and prothorax not coarsely and roughly punctured; the shoulders and sides of the elytra beneath without armature, the punctures at their bases equally disposed from side to side, and no spines on the antennal joints. On account of the last character, it comes rather badly into *Hoplideres*, in a technical point of view.

Ægosoma lacertosum.

Æ. brunneo-rufum; clytris fuscis, opacis, costis valde elevatis, rufis, subnitidis, sutura apice breviter mucronata.

Hab. Sylhet.

Deep red or brownish red; head and prothorax covered with numerous minute granules, the latter with the sides gradually broader from the apex to the base, the posterior angle subacuminate, slightly recurved; scutellum scutiform; clytra dark brown, opaque, very minutely granulate, the ribs strongly raised, reddish yellow, glabrous, and subnitid, the sutural angle shortly mucronate; body beneath with a thin, rough, greyish pile; legs reddish brown, the knees black and glabrous. Length 14 lines.

A very distinct species, on account of its colour and the strongly raised glabrous lines of its clytra.

ELAPTUS.

Antennæ corpore longiores, subcompressæ, articulis tertio et quarto æqualibus, sequentibus gradatim longioribus, ultimo acuminato. Oculi magni. Prothorax transversus, carina laterali pone medium paulo angulata. Elytra depressa, breviuscula, apice rotundata. Femora brevia; tibiæ haud dentatæ; tarsi subangustati, æquales, articulis tribus basalibus quam ultimus vix longioribus. Abdomen segmentis longitudine æqualibus.

Apparently allied to *Sarmyds*, which I have not at present an opportunity of examining. From *Notophysis** it differs in the antennæ and eyes.

Elaptus simulator.

E. fuscescens, nitidus; clytris fulvescentibus.

Hab. Cape York (Northern Australia).

Glossy, brownish, the clytra inclining to fulvous; head roughly punctured, the eyes occupying the greater part of it; prothorax a little broader than the head, finely and rather closely punctured, lateral ridge slender, depressed, slightly emarginate behind the angle; scutellum rounded behind; clytra finely and closely punctured, each puncture with a short greyish hair, three scarcely raised lines on each; body beneath and legs with a greyish pile. Length 10 lines.

P.S. Since this was written, M. Lacordaire informs me that this Prionid belongs to his "groupe Clostérides."

* A species of *Notophysis* in my collection has the following differences from Serville's description of his *N. lucanoides*:—mandibles not denticulate internally; head and prothorax not "very smooth," and clytra not spined at the sutural angle; the tarsi, also, do not agree. The male is nearly black, with the antennæ scarcely two-thirds the length of the body; the female is larger, light chestnut-brown, the antennæ not half the length of the body.